

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-12 are pending. New dependent claims 7-12 have been added. No new matter has been introduced. Applicant believes the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, and that no new issues are raised.

The addition of new dependent claims 7-12 is largely formal in nature, in that they substantially mirror dependent claims 2-5. For instance, new claims 7-9 contain features similar to those in claim 2; new claim 10 contains features similar to those in claim 3; new claim 11 contains features similar to those in claim 4; and new claim 12 contains features similar to those in claim 5. Accordingly, entry of the claim amendments is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner states that claim 1 falls within the scope of 35 U.S.C. § 112, 6th paragraph, and is construed to cover the corresponding structure, material, or acts described within the specification at paragraphs [0024], [0025], and [0026]. Applicant notes, however, that according to 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶6, the means-plus-function elements of the claim are construed to cover the corresponding structure, material, or acts described within the specification (which will include but not be limited to paragraphs [0024], [0025], and [0026]), and equivalents thereof.

Appl. No. 10/783,692
Amdt. dated April 21, 2005
Reply to Office Action of February 23, 2005

PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



Chun-Pok Leung
Reg. No. 41,405

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
RL:rl
60467388 v1